



*American Legion*  
*Department of Vermont*  
*Monthly Bulletin*

November 2021

*"For God and Country"*



**DEPARTMENT OF VERMONT COMMANDER**

*Catherine M. Jester*

- 16 million Americans served in World War II, and only 240,329 of those veterans are alive today.

These veterans need advocates, and that is why The American Legion exists. We are here to serve veterans, their families and our communities. **Veterans need each other, but, more importantly, our country needs our veterans.**

Membership is the lifeblood of our organization and it is so important that we recruit and renew our members. As I am writing this article we are 200 away from reaching 65 percent on November 12. I know we can reach this goal but it is up to each of us to work at it. Pick up the phone and call a member who has not renewed, find out why they have not renewed. Working together we can achieve great things.

I have had the privilege of visiting Bristol Post 19, Ludlow Post 36, Brandon Post 55, Montpelier Post 3, Vergennes Post 14, Bennington Post 13, Crippen Fel-

lows Post 50, Hartford Post 26, Chester Post 67 and Windsor Post 25 over the past few weeks. Thank you for the hospitality that you have shown to me during my visit.

Thank you to Vergennes Post 14 for hosting the Fall Conference. We had a hybrid meeting with members and trainers on Zoom and in-person. During lunch it was reassuring to look across the hall and see Auxiliary, Sons and Legionnaires eating together and in good conversation. Hats off to Post 14. THANK YOU!

Please keep in your prayers all of the legionnaires who may be sick, especially Department Chaplain Coonradt, Department Finance Officer Minoli, Bennington County Commander Bump, 4<sup>th</sup> District Commander Moore and Oratorical Chair Devine.

I want to wish everyone a happy and safe Thanksgiving. I will be celebrating with my family and will say a pray for our troops

Dear Legionnaires,

Thank you for your service to this great organization and your service to our nation. The heroism that has been demonstrated time and again by veterans is sometimes unnoticed by those of us who enjoy the security that your sacrifice has provided. I hope that you were able to enjoy Veteran's Day.

I came across some interesting facts about Veterans.

- The World War I armistice was signed on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month.
- There were around 21.8 million veterans in the United States as of 2010, of those, 9 million were over the age of 65.
- There are approximately 1.6 million women veterans.

*(Continued on page 2)*

who are not able to be with their loved ones during this holiday season.

Happy fall legionnaires and please let me know if I can be of any assistance. I look forward to visiting your post home this year.

*“Have a goal for tomorrow,*

*A plan for today,*

*And remember the lessons of yesterday.”*

For God and Country,

Catherine M. Tester

Department Commander



## PAUL E. DILLARD

### NATIONAL COMMANDER

### AMERICAN LEGION



By Paul E. Dillard,  
National Commander  
Nov 07, 2021

The American Legion has been at the forefront with Buddy Checks to ensure the needs of veterans in their post and community are met. Now there's an opportunity for us to reach even more veterans and save even more lives with the Buddy Check Act – an American Legion-supported bipartisan legislation.

This bill would direct VA to establish a “Buddy Check Week,” modeled after The American Legion’s Buddy Check program, to provide educational opportunities, materials and references for veterans to learn how to conduct personal wellness checks, as well as require increased resources for the Veterans Crisis Line to handle any potential increases in calls during the designated week.

I ask you to help us get the Buddy Check Act passed.

Reach out to your congressional representatives to voice our support for this legislation at [www.votervoice.net/AmericanLegion/Campaigns/87480/Respond](http://www.votervoice.net/AmericanLegion/Campaigns/87480/Respond).

And don't wait to make contact.

We must act now.

The U.S. Senate has approved

legislation that would make this a national program. Now, let's prod the U.S. House to follow suit. If our representatives don't act before Congress recesses next month, it could be at least three months before they consider this legislation again. Or it could be dropped altogether.

For materials on The American Legion's Buddy Check program, visit [www.legion.org/buddycheck](http://www.legion.org/buddycheck).

The American Legion has demonstrated great success with Buddy Checks. Let's help expand it through the VA for even greater success and reach.



We are  
Thankful for  
YOU!



Happy  
Thanksgiving

[MYLEGION.ORG](http://MYLEGION.ORG)

## ONLINE RESOURCES

Information and help with the new MyLegion.org platform, including registration and account resources, may be found **online here:**

<http://em.legion.org/c/1yU5ZJSGniJJ6BtPs74E9j>

**National training opportunities at your fingertips and a click away at**

<https://www.legion.org/training/training-tuesdays>



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## SENIOR VICE COMMANDER

*Tom Scanlon*

I would first like to ask everyone to keep our Department Chaplain in your prayers. At the time of this writing he is in Dartmouth Hitchcock Hospital being treated for a life threatening illness. Please keep Ken Coonradt in your thoughts and prayers. He constantly prays for all of us, so let's return the favor. Additionally I want to wish all a *Happy Thanksgiving*.

We, in the American Legion, hear and read the following phrase; "*Tell your story*" quite frequently, particularly in the Dispatch and the Legion Magazine. This is most usually in the context of membership. We, meaning our Posts in the Department of Vermont, do wonderful things for our veterans and our communities. However, the circle of individuals that are aware of it are relatively few, or in some cases non-existent. We have to get out there and let all know what we do. We can't be afraid of "telling our story". Thus, this takes us to public speaking. Talking to various groups in our cities and towns like the Lions, Rotary, Farm Bureau, and even schools, just to name a few. There are many veterans out there just waiting to be asked to join, but they don't know about us or what we do. We have

to do better marketing ourselves.

*Public speaking*....just mentioning this gives a lot of people anxiety. Keep in mind nervousness is normal. However one must have a strong basis of knowledge and information about the American Legion, not only about their local post. I recommend you take the on line basic American Legion course and build your knowledge and skill base. This is preparation, which is crucial. Know the Four Pillars, a little history of the American Legion and what it has done since its inception. This is critically important and will increase one's comfort level. Know who your audience is and organize your notes and material in a way that impacts them. Practice, and get a critique from someone as to your practice session. This often helps. Also, keep in mind your talk or speech is about them, not you. And, just to add another important element, look for feedback by gauging the audience's reaction and adapt to it.

When you are ready for the first time, make sure you organize your material and write down the topic, general purpose, central idea, and main points. Do not read a canned speech, or you will lose everyone's attention. Let your personality come through, and be yourself and you will establish better credibility and you will be viewed as a real person.

However, watch your gestures and use your voice, as well as your hands effectively. Remember nonverbal communication carries important parts of the message you are trying to convey.

It is important to grab the audience's attention at the beginning by using an anecdote, quotation, a noteworthy statistic, story or joke that relates to the subject. This is called the "grabber". Don't forget that you can use humor, tell a story or funny anecdote. This is a personal touch that most audiences like.

Finally you want to close with a strong summary or dynamic ending that all will remember. From here the rest is up to you, but practice, practice, practice. Keep in mind nobody expects you to be perfect, however they expect you to be prepared.

I hope these few suggestions aid you in getting out there and selling the American Legion. It is a great and wonderful organization that has done, and continues to do, wonderful things. Be a salesperson for it and your Post and it will reap the benefit of new support and new members. Now go out and "*TELL YOUR STORY*".

*For God, Country & Community*

Tom Scanlon





## NORTHERN AREA COMMANDER

### *Mark Cloutier*

Welcome fellow  
Legionnaires.

Do you believe that  
it is already November?

Where has the year gone to?

Fall conference has come and gone and I apologize for not being able to be attend in person as I was home recovering and quarantining from COVID-19. From what I saw from attending via zoom it looked like it was well attended and very informative.

Overall membership in the Northern Area is looking good except for a few posts. District commanders please see the weekly membership report that Melodie sends out and contact those posts that are below 50%. If you are having issues contacting post adjutants or commanders and would like me to help, please feel free to reach out to me. If you are still having problems getting into mylegion.org to process your memberships, please let me know and I will do my best to help out.

I do believe that there are still a few posts that still haven't had any officer installations yet. It is very important that post officers are installed.

Mid-winter convention will be upon us

soon. This year it is at the Doubletree Hotel in South Burlington and is on January 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> so please save the date on your calendars and hopefully we can see a representative from every post present. Stay tuned for more information about mid-winter.

Not to preach but testing positive with COVID-19 has been a real eye opener for me. I am thankful that I was vaccinated because it lessened the symptoms a bit, it was still rough going, and I am still dealing with issues. Please folks, if you are not vaccinated please, please consider it. While the shot doesn't make you immune to COVID but is certainly lessons the symptoms and could keep you out of the hospital. I never thought that I would get it and still have no idea how or where I got it as I haven't been around anyone that had it.

Be safe and stay healthy!

I can be reached at **802-371-8097**, by email [post7adj@gmail.com](mailto:post7adj@gmail.com), or just shoot me a message on Facebook.

Mark Cloutier

Northern Area Commander  
Department of Vermont  
***For God and Country***

## SUICIDE

If you or someone you know is experiencing suicidal thoughts, please call the crisis line at 1-800-273-8255, press 1 for veterans. You could also text at **838255**.





## DEPARTMENT ADJUTANT

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*Brian Markwell*

It's November already and time to think about what you're going to be doing in 2022. The first event you should be thinking about is the Mid-Winter Conference to be held on Jan 21-22, a Friday and Saturday, at the Double-Tree in South Burlington. The room rate is \$115 plus tax but does not include breakfast. Make sure you mention the booking code ALW when you call. (800-455-8661). If you're going to the banquet on Friday night, make sure your reservation is sent in by the January 10, 2022, deadline to the Dep of Vermont address in Montpelier along with a check for \$35 for each person made out to American Legion Dept of Vermont. National Vice Commander Corry Bates will be attending this conference so come out to meet him and hear what he has to say about our great organization.

Another event coming up next year is the National Convention, August 26 to September 1, 2022, being held in Milwaukee, WI at the Wisconsin Center. Our hotel will be the Springhill Suites located directly across the street from

the convention center. The rate will be \$142 plus tax adding up to \$163.30 per night. Springhill Suites room rates include breakfast. Parking is \$32/night. I bring this up because at 1040 miles and 16 hours and 48 minutes driving time according to Google Maps from Montpelier, it may be an option for some who would rather drive than make connections flying there. If you're attending as a delegate, I will be making your room reservation as part of the Vermont delegation. Just make sure I have your travel plans to include arrival and departure dates to coordinate with the hotel.

These are just two events coming up in 2022 that you might want to look into putting on your calendar now. I encourage everyone who is interested in knowing more about these events to check out our website and National's website to help you with the details. Please make sure you check as we get closer to the actual convention dates as more detailed information will be added as the time gets closer.

For those of you still having issues with signing onto your MyLegion account or having the correct access to items once you're on the system, please let us know and we will troubleshoot from our level or push it up to National to resolve the problem. The system only gets better if we bring our problems to the attention of those who can fix them. Maybe something that is not working for you is the missing piece that National can use to make the system work better for all of us.

Looking forward to a great year in 2022 for the Vermont American Legion.

As always, if you have any questions or need help with something, please feel free to contact me at [adjvt@talofvt.com](mailto:adjvt@talofvt.com) or 1-802-999-1026.

For God and Country,

Brian Markwell  
Dept of Vermont Adjutant



## SECOND DISTRICT COMMANDER

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*Lou Furry*

Greetings 2<sup>nd</sup> District Legionnaires,

Winter is coming....

With each passing month, our membership goals become more and more critical. We need to focus on getting memberships processed and reported to Department. In the 2<sup>nd</sup> District our results are somewhat mixed. We have some Posts well over 60% currently, and some at less than 20%. Those lower percentages will be my focus as I begin working my way through the District rosters. My intent is to help, not

to chastise. As a District Commander/Department Officer my job is to serve you, the Posts and Post Officers, not to be "your boss". As such, I firmly believe in assisting with an attitude of respect and concern. I will be calling to offer assistance, and may have already done so by the time you read this. Having been an Adjutant and a Post and County Commander in the past, I know from personal experience that it can be a bit stressful to attract the attention a Department Officer. That is not what I'm here for. Believe it or not, I actually enjoy the opportunity to

meet and work with other Legionnaires. As a first year District Commander, I don't claim to know it all but I'm willing to learn the things I don't know and to share the things I do know. If you need assistance with anything before I've gotten around to contacting you, don't wait. Feel free to contact me via email at [trollfur@yahoo.com](mailto:trollfur@yahoo.com) or call my cell phone at 802-272-0416.

I look forward to renewing some old acquaintances and meeting some new ones.

Respectfully submitted,

Lou Furry



## THIRD DISTRICT COMMANDER

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*Joe Zickmund*

Greetings from District 3,

Nothing I'm about to say is meant to diminish the bravery, courage, or experiences of our battle-hardened veterans. The debt the world owes them is incalculable. In fact, this isn't about them at all but rather about everyone else - the veterans who took the oath, followed orders and went and did all that was asked of them, but never saw combat.

I suspect we've all been in a situation where at some event veterans have been asked to stand. It leads off with WWII then Korea, Vietnam, and then Iraq, Afghanistan and Global War on Terrorism with each veteran standing when their era is announced. That's a real feel-good moment for most. It's also an exclusionary moment for oth-

ers. Today all veterans who honorably served can now be members of the American Legion. If we are to be an organization that recognizes and celebrates veterans, let's not exclude those that served during peacetime. I have been to events where it is asked that all veterans stand and be recognized. This is a better, more inclusive way to make all members feel valued and welcome. The last thing we want to do is make a veteran feel unwelcome, unequal or excluded. That would run contrary to our mission and goals.

My Best,

Joe Zickmund

District 3

# *upcoming* **EVENTS**

Dates		Event/meeting	Location
<b>2021</b>			
December	10	Open House	Department of Vermont
<b>2022</b>			
January	21-22	Mid-Winter Conference	Double Tree, Burlington
	21	Mid-Winter Banquet 5:00pm	
	22	Department Executive Committee Meeting (DEC)	following Mid-Winter Conference
April	10	Department Executive Committee Meeting (DEC)	Montpelier Post 3



## **FIFTH DISTRICT COMMANDER**

*Lewis Graham*

Hello  
fellow vets of  
District 5 of

The American Legion,

I will start by informing you that we called a District meeting and were unable to enact business due to lack of a quorum, which is representation by 8 of the 16 Posts in our District. We do not have that many meetings per year and I would appreciate if you would make it a priority to have your Post represented at our next meeting. The District has funds available now to make a difference in the lives of our veterans and our communities in this difficult time and also needs to plan fundraising events so that we can continue to be a force for good for our veterans and their families. One of the concerns I would like to discuss is the Meals on Wheels pro-

gram. A sizable percentage of the people they serve are older veterans and they are having difficulty keeping up with the needs in our District. I will be setting up another District 5 meeting in the near future and hope to see you there.

You do not have to wait for a meeting to bring forward any ideas for supporting our programs and also letting me know how you are supporting our mission. Call me at 802-279-0441 or email at [vermont-er@charter.net](mailto:vermont-er@charter.net). (It is necessary to use the area code for all calls now since the phone system is being changed throughout Vermont to require area codes for local calls as well as long distance ones). It is always a pleasure to showcase your activities in the bulletin and others may pick up on your ideas.

Some pleasant news is that I will be swearing in Post officers for Post 26, on November 3rd in White River. We welcome the Post back to The American Legion Family and wish them all the best. If you have the time, stop by and say Hi to them and offer them any help they may need.

It is great that so many of our posts have kept the faith so well during these last 18 months. It just goes to show how strong and determined the Legion Family is in keeping our promise to be there for our veterans. Hats off to you all.

For God and Country,

Lew Graham, Jr.





## ADDISON COUNTY COMMANDER

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*Alan M. Smith*

During my evaluations of County Posts I found a recurring problem, Posts are having to cancel or are unable to hold meetings due to not having a quorum. These Posts need to address the reasons why members are reluctant to attend meetings, are the meetings too long do the dates and times need to be changed? Meetings held at night tend to discourage older members who can't or won't drive at night.

Mid-Winter conference is January 21-22 at the

Doubletree Hotel in South Burlington. Hope to see all Addison County Posts represented.

Fall Conference at Post 14 in Vergennes was very informative and well run, thanks to Post 14 for hosting the event. The video of the American Flag that was part of Post 27's 9-11 remembrance celebration should be viewed by all veterans, I guarantee you will be moved by it.

Alan M. Smith



## CALEDONIA COUNTY COMMANDER

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*David Perron*

November has arrived, snow in places. Membership starts with you!!!!!! Let's make our Post stronger and healthy.

Keep up the good work with all activities throughout all Posts.

Fall Conference is behind us. Let's start planning for mid-winter now and let's have a big turnout.

Please let me know if I can do anything to help with anything you folks need.

COUNTY COMMANDERS- Time to get out there and visit your Post for Evaluations, I like to visit early so you have time to re-visit and check their improvements. **Also please update phone numbers and e-mail in Directory.**

**Having trouble reaching out to some.**

**Membership, Membership WE CAN DO THIS.**

Thank you all for serving.

Contact #'s Home-525-3895  
Cell 272-2793

[Perrondavid323@yahoo.com](mailto:Perrondavid323@yahoo.com)

Thank you,

David W Perron

Caledonia County Commander



## S.A.L. ADVISOR

*Bruce F. Paquin*



Greetings Legionnaires,

As we enter November, the month to honor all of our veterans who have served our great nation, I wish to take this opportunity to join with the Detachment of the Sons of the American Legion in thanking all of our veterans for their service to our country. The Sons exist for the purpose of honoring our veteran's service and to give aid and support for all the great programs for which help lift up our veterans, their families, and the communities in which we live. As a Legionnaire, I am proud of the support that the Detachment is providing to their Squadrons and to the American Legion Posts. A good example of that support is Detachment Commander Revell's project for the year. He has chosen UVM Pathways Vermont Support Services for Veterans Families. This is a national initiative funded by the Department of Veterans Affairs to address homelessness among veterans. They provide support services, grants, funds, and other help to keep veterans and their families in their homes or finding a place to live. I urge all Squadrons and everyone to help Commander Revell in support for this worthy veterans program.

Our Detachment revitalization team is still in the process of making Squadron visitation. Please welcome them and participate with their visit to your Post. If you would like more information on this process, or would like to know of a date of visit for your Post, please contact me for the 411. The most immediate help you can give to your Squadron (and the Legion Family) is to assist them with their membership efforts. We are seeing a slightly better rate than the national average, but we still have a long way to go. We need to keep membership in our forethoughts to reach our goals. Keep up the good efforts. I wish all of the veterans and their families a happy and safe Veterans Day and Thanksgiving.

Thank you all for the work you do.

For God and Country,

Bruce F. Paquin

## DEPARTMENT OF VERMONT

126 State Street

P.O. Box 396

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802-223-7131

[vtlegion.org](http://vtlegion.org)

Melodie Ashford

Executive Administrator

[Finalvt@talofvt.com](mailto:Finalvt@talofvt.com)

Department of  
Veterans Affairs

800-827-1000

[www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov)

American Legion  
Headquarters

317-630-1200

[www.legion.org](http://www.legion.org)

Vermont Office of  
Veterans Affairs

802-828-3379

[www.veterans.vermont.gov](http://www.veterans.vermont.gov)

VA Hospital  
White River Jct., Vermont

802-259-9363

Benefits  
800-827-1000 or,  
802-296-5177

Scheduling  
802-296-5160

Dept. Service Officer

Larry Thompson

479-3686

[thompsonl@myfairpoint.net](mailto:thompsonl@myfairpoint.net)



## DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN

*Victor J. Stone*

### Civil War Memorial Rededication

In 1930 American Legion Post #13 commissioned the construction of a memorial to honor 450 Bennington soldiers who fought in the Civil War. The memorial is composed of a relief pan-



el featuring both mounted and marching soldiers on one side and a plaque commemorating the original dedication of the memorial. The memorial was first dedicated on August 16, 1930 and remained under the care of Post #13 for the next thirty years.

In the 1960s the Post passed custody of the monument to the Bennington Museum where it sits in an honored location just outside the entrance of the Museum building. Over the years the monument's bronze elements had deteriorated due to the effects of sun and weather necessitating a major refurbishing and refreshing. To commemorate the completion of the restoration work, Bennington Post #13 and the Bennington Museum hosted a rededication of the monument

on Saturday Nov. 6<sup>th</sup>.

The ceremony was attended by Commander Tester, Southern Area Commander Bill Ferman, Steve Greenslet, Commander of Post #13, Steve Luke, Vice Commander of Post #13, and Dave Woodward, Adjutant of Post #13, along with dozens of Legionnaires, members of the American Legion family, Museum staff, and members of the public. To cap the celebration and provide tangible support for the Bennington Museum's work, generous donations amounting to \$3000.00 were made by Bennington Post #13, AL Auxiliary Unit #13, SAL Squadron #13, and Chapter #13 of the American Legion Riders.

In all it was a beautiful day and a proud occasion for Bennington Post #13 and the American Legion Family.



Civil War Memorial, Plaque Side

From L to R. Steve Luke, Vice Commander of Post #13, Steve Greenslet, Commander of Post #13, Department Commander Catherine Tester, Southern Area Commander Bill Ferman





# Open House at Department Headquarters

## Friday, December 10, 2021

### 11:30 - 1:00 pm

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#### **National Commander Dillard's 103% Department Incentive**

During National Commander Dillard's closing remarks during this past Fall NEC Meeting, he announced an exciting department incentive. Any department who achieves 103% of their membership goal and attains 90% retention of their 2021 membership will be receive a credit for the national per capita. Here is the link to the story that was published in the Dispatch. <https://www.legion.org/membership/253853/departments-get-money-back-member-dues-after-meeting-criteria>

This award will end on October 1<sup>st</sup>. Any department who qualifies for this award will receive a reimbursement check for those 2022 members submitted above the 103% of their 2022 membership goal after October 1<sup>st</sup>. To qualify, departments have to attain both 103% of their 2022 membership and 90% retention of 2021 members. Only reaching one or the other does not qualify the department for the incentive.

Once a department qualifies for this award, they will continue to submit dues normally through PGO, posts through myLegion, or submitting a transmittal to be manually processed at the National Headquarters.



**THE AMERICAN LEGION**  
**INTERNAL AFFAIRS & MEMBERSHIP DIVISION**

**INSTRUCTIONS & MISSION BLUE POST ASSISTANCE PROGRAM GRANT APPLICATION**

For assistance in completing this application, or for contact information, contact your department at [www.legion.org/departments](http://www.legion.org/departments).

**POST GRANT (Application–Page 3):** The Mission Blue Post Assistance Program (PAP) grant is intended to assist posts whose revenue has been negatively impacted from the effects of the COVID-19 health crisis within the community, as well as any government-mandated restrictions. The funds distributed from this grant are to be exclusively used to meet financial responsibilities associated with maintaining post facilities and community presence. Grants are only approved to cover costs and fees associated with mortgage payments, rent, insurance premiums, and/or utilities. Recipient posts are prohibited from using funds to maintain or cover a loss of income from any registered post business (including but not limited to post bars, cantinas, restaurants, etc.) paying post employees, building upgrades or repairs, taxes, fines/fees/penalties, or funding post activities and programs. Posts who meet all the required criteria may receive up to \$1,000.00 from the Mission Blue PAP fund. Department commanders/adjudants are encouraged to complete a Mission Blue PAP grant application on behalf of the post.

**QUALIFYING CRITERIA:** American Legion posts who meet all qualifying criteria for the Mission Blue PAP Grant are eligible to receive up to \$1,000.00. Department commanders/adjudants must certify the applicant post meets the following criteria:

- Must have a consolidated post report on file.
- Must have filed an IRS 990 within the prescribed due date.
- Must have filed all other required forms and reports as prescribed by the department.
- Must have actively participated in one or more American Legion program(s) within the last 18 months.
- Must have a financial need.
- Must provide a certificate of insurance for all liability coverage naming The American Legion doing business as (dba) American Legion National Headquarters and the post's department as an additional insured.(Submit declaration page showing coverage)
- Must provide documentation indicating that the post is properly incorporated.

**REQUIRED APPLICATION INFORMATION (Application–Page 3):** Department leadership must verify that applicant posts meet all the qualifying criteria prior to submission of the grant application. Posts and departments do not need to submit any bills or receipts along with grant applications. The application must be filled out completely and accurately to prevent delay in processing. Grant requests may be submitted in fillable PDF format and sent via email to [IA@legion.org](mailto:IA@legion.org). Any questions regarding this grant should be directed to the Internal Affairs & Membership Division.

**APPROVAL SIGNATURE OF GRANT APPLICATIONS:** Upon review, if additional information is needed, the department will be contacted. If the application is properly completed and all qualifying criteria and requirements are met, the Internal Affairs & Membership Division will endorse the application and forward a request for funds to the Finance Division. After review and approval by the National Adjutant, a check will be issued and forwarded to the department headquarters to disburse to the applicant post along with a grant fulfillment letter which will also include reporting instructions.

If any of the above steps have not been taken, the application may be returned to the department headquarters for amendment or further clarification. Applications not approved will be returned to the department headquarters with reasons for disapproval who will then notify the applicant post.

**REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:** Posts are required to submit a true and accurate report outlining how the grant funds were used (mortgage, rent, insurance premiums, and/or utilities) within six months of the receipt of funds and no later than February 28, 2022. Information regarding the report format and submission will be included within the grant fulfillment letter. This report should be reviewed by department headquarters prior to forwarding it to the Internal Affairs & Membership Division at the national headquarters.



## **ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS**

This form contains two sections: a post information section and a department verification section. Both sections must be completed in full. Departments will need to review the instructions and information within this document with the applicant post prior to completing the grant application.

Departments will need to obtain the necessary records to verify all qualifying criteria have been met. These are only for the department verification process and additional records do not need to be sent to national headquarters along with the application. If additional information is needed for the review process, the department will be contacted.

Mission Blue PAP grants are strictly for assisting posts with facility related expenses (as outlined in Resolution 36, October 2020). Bills, receipts, and itemized expenses are not required with this application.

**REMINDER: Mission Blue PAP grants are not provided to cover costs or lost revenue associated with any post business, such as bars, cantinas, pubs, restaurants, club rooms, etc.**

Ensure all sections of the application are complete and the appropriate signatures are obtained.

Applications must be submitted national headquarters by the department headquarters for approval. All applications sent directly to national headquarters by any other means will be returned to the appropriate department headquarters without review or action.

If you have questions concerning the Mission Blue PAP Grant and application, please contact the Internal Affairs & Membership Division using the information below.

**Before sending a Mission Blue PAP application to The American Legion National Headquarters, did you:**

Verify the applicant post has met all the required criteria for grant consideration?

Complete all sections of the application and attach all required documents?

Provide a copy of post's insurance declaration page showing The American Legion National Headquarters as an additional insured on the post's liability (aka general liability) coverage?

Sign and date the application?

**The American Legion Mission  
Blue Post Assistance Program**

PO Box 1055

Indianapolis, IN 46206

(317) 630-1330

Email: [IA@legion.org](mailto:IA@legion.org)

# **DEC MEETING**

## **OCTOBER 23, 2021**

The Department of Vermont Executive Committee met at the Vergennes Legion Post 14 and via Zoom at 1408 hours. The meeting was presided over by Department Commander Catherine Tester. Roll call was taken by the Dept Adjutant and a quorum was present of the executive board members.

Minutes from the July 11, 2021, DEC meeting were approved.

Minutes from the October 6, 2021, DEC meeting were approved.

Department Finance Officer Dennis Minoli gave the finance report. There was a surplus of \$61,000 at the end of the first quarter. It was moved and passed to accept the report.

Commander Tester discussed that the gas raffle will be moved to Mid-winter conference in attempt to get more participation.

There was an update regarding the Edward Jones investment account. Up to \$175,000 will be invested over the next six to eight months into two funds each having a 50/50 split between stocks and bonds. One account will be a little more aggressive in its investment strategy.

Commander Tester then went into unfinished business. First to be discussed was the current status of Post 26 in White River. Bill Furman said that the Post Officers will be installed on November 3, 2021. Fred Stebbins will be their new Post Adjutant.

Next Post 57 was discussed with input from Northern Area Commander Mark Cloutier and Department Adjutant Markwell. A property manager has been contacted with a walk thru and currently awaiting a report on the facility and letter being sent to the insurance company on behalf of the Department outlining what and when the requested projects can be completed.

Next Post 69 was discussed with input from NEC Alternate Dave Woodward. The Meals and Room Taxes have not been paid for the last year.

Post 39 was then discussed with the issue that they haven't filed their 990's since 2011 and that they have lost their non-profit status with the IRS. They are not currently working with the IRS. They do have a plan.

The Foundation update was then discussed. We have about \$11,000 in new funds in the foundation bringing the total to approximately \$61,000.

The Convention Committee Chairman Fred Stebbins then reported that they are looking at five places for prices.

New Business was then brought up. The issue of Post 35 at Mt Mansfield was discussed concerning that some want to sell the building. It will be discussed further at their November 13 meeting.

Commander Tester then appointed PDC Don Tetreault emeritus to the Athletic Committee. Motion made and approved to appoint him.

The DEC was reminded that the Americanism Chair was still vacant.

Department Commander Tester discussed the national commander visit. After discussion with her leadership team, Commander Tester felt it was in the best interest of the Department of Vermont not to appoint the previous adjutant as Chair of the National Commander Visitation Committee. This was a requirement placed on

the department of Vermont by the National Organization. Commander Tester further stated that she would welcome a visit by the National Commander anytime.

The Department Service Officer Larry Thompson then reported that he has processed 207 claims since taking the position, 33 education, has 47 new claim cases, 57 he is currently working, 35 cases submitted for processing as well as closed 70 cases. He said he is currently in the process of making the office paperless.

Department Commander Tester then informed the group that Hannaford's grocery stores are offering a 10% discount to veterans on November 11. No proof of status is required.

The Boy Scout parade this year in Vergennes on November 6, was discussed. Everything is online for information and registration.

Dave Woodward discussed that the Bennington legion donated a monument to the museum. A rededication ceremony will be held on November 6, 2021, at 1300 hours. The monument has been refurbished.

The next DEC meeting will be at the Mid-winter conference.

PDC Don Tetreault then announced his donations of \$100 towards the calendar and \$500 towards the Eagle Scout scholarship fund.

The meeting was adjourned at 1505 hours.

Respectfully submitted

Brian Markwell

Department Adjutant



PDC Ron LaRose presenting a check for \$4,200.00 (his Commander's Project) to Green Mountain Council's Chief Scout Executive Mark Saxon for the period of 2020-2021.





# PRESS RELEASE

## VERMONT NATIONAL GUARD

Adjutant General of Vermont – State Public Affairs Officer

789 Vermont National Guard Road – Colchester, VT 05446-3004

State PAO: Maj. Scott Detweiler | Office (802) 338-3434 Cell (802) 227-2779

**[TAG Release 21-49](#)**

**Wednesday, Oct. 27, 2021**

### **Vermont National Guard encourages Burn Pit Registration**

COLCHESTER, Vt. – The Vermont National Guard seeks to increase participation in the VA Airborne Hazards and Open Air Burn Pit Registry.

Any veteran who qualifies should contact the Vermont National Guard Veteran Outreach Specialist within their respective county by calling 888-607-8773.

“Burn-pits” are open air burn sites, most in Southwest Asia, where all manner of trash is incinerated on both large and small military bases,” said Maj. Gen. Greg Knight, Vermont adjutant general. “In an effort to increase awareness about the possible risks associated with burn pits, we worked closely with the Vermont Legislature to pass a bill that requires medical providers to educate patients on the risks, as well as to increase participation in the burn pit registry located on the VA website.”

Veterans and Service members who have deployed to the Southwest Asia theater of operations on or after August 2, 1990 as well as those who have deployed to Afghanistan or Djibouti after September 2001 qualify to register.

"High quality healthcare is always built off of a foundation of good science." Said Dr. Brett Rusch, White River Junction VA Healthcare System's Executive Director. "The Burn Pit Registry is helping doctors and researchers develop the science needed to provide Veterans the best possible medical care. Vermont Veterans and the Vermont National Guard are taking a leading role in this effort which will benefit Veterans not just in Vermont but across our country."

The VA initiated the Registry in 2014 to collect data related to the potential health effects of exposure to airborne hazards. For more information on the Airborne Hazards and Open Air Burn Pit Registry, or to register, visit: <https://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/burnpits/registry.asp>.

For more information contact Joint Force Headquarters Public Affairs Officer; Maj. Scott Detweiler, (802) 227-2779, or email [john.s.detweiler.mil@mail.mil](mailto:john.s.detweiler.mil@mail.mil).



# ATTN: VETERANS & ACTIVE SERVICE MEMBERS

Were you exposed to Burn Pits while deployed?

Sign up for the VA Burn Pit registry today.

## ★ IS THIS FOR ME?

Veterans and Service members who have deployed to the Southwest Asia theater of operations on or after August 2, 1990 as well as those who have deployed to Afghanistan or Djibouti after September 11, 2001 can use the registry.

## ★ WHY SIGN UP?

- Document your exposures and health concerns.
- Improve awareness of long-term health for you and all Veterans.
- Learn about follow up care at the VA.
- Satisfaction from helping other Veterans and Service members.

## ★ VA MEDICAL CENTER, VT



For assistance with enrollment call your local Vermont Veterans Outreach Specialist:

**888-607-8773**

VT MILITARY & FAMILY  
SUPPORT CENTER

24/7



**VA**



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs  
Veterans Health Administration  
White River Junction Healthcare System

163 Veterans Drive  
White River Junction, VT 05009  
802-295-9363 | 866-687-8387

Scan QR Code with your smartphone camera to sign up for the VA Burn Pit registry OR visit:



★ [veteran.mobilehealth.va.gov/AHBurnPitRegistry/#page/home](https://veteran.mobilehealth.va.gov/AHBurnPitRegistry/#page/home)





# MID WINTER CONFERENCE



FRIDAY AND SATURDAY

JANUARY 21 - 22, 2022

DOUBLETREE HOTEL - SOUTH BURLINGTON

870 Williston Road, South Burlington, VT

## BANQUET - FRIDAY NIGHT



*Tossed Garden Salad  
Rolls & Butter  
Dijon Chicken Breast  
Ham*

*Penne Pasta w/ Red Sauce  
Garlic Roasted Red Potatoes  
Roasted Vegetables  
Chefs Choice Dessert Table  
Coffee & Lemonade*

**\$35.00 Inclusive**

## HOTEL ROOM RESERVATIONS



*Room rate is \$115.00 per night plus tax  
(breakfast not included)*

**800-445-8667**

*Mention 2022 Legion Mid-Winter Conference*

*If you are asked for a code it is (ALW)*

THE AMERICAN LEGION  
DEPARTMENT OF VERMONT

**2022 MID-WINTER CONFERENCE BANQUET**

DOUBLETREE by HILTON, Williston Rd., SO. BURLINGTON VT

**Friday, January 21, 2022**

**COCKTAILS – 6:00 P.M**

**DINNER – 6:30 P.M.**



Baked Ham or Dijon Chicken Breast

The above will be served with Fresh Tossed Garden Salad (Plated), Rolls and Butter,  
Roasted Red Potatoes, Penne Pasta with Red Sauce, Roasted Vegetables, Chef's Choice Dessert Table  
Coffee and Lemonade

**\$35.00 per person – All Inclusive**

**Make Checks Payable to American Legion Department of Vermont and**

**SEND CHECKS TO:**

**Dept. HQ, P.O. Box 396, Montpelier, VT 05601-0396**

**DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS IS: January 10, 2022**



**PLEASE RESERVE:**

Baked Ham# \_\_\_\_\_

Dijon Chicken Breast # \_\_\_\_\_

**AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**NAME: \_\_\_\_\_**

**(Circle) POST AUX S.A.L.**





## LEGISLATIVE CHAIRMAN

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*PDC Dick Farmer*

November

Legionnaires:

It's hard to believe that its time to put away duck decoys and get out deer hunting stuff.

November is Veteran month so let's do whatever we can to celebrate the Veterans.

I hope some of you participated in the Legislators' Veteran town-meeting. It's important to let them know we exist. At Fall Conference, you were presented with a petition to support exempting from State tax retired military pay and ending the tax on disabled Veterans' income. Get this filled out and send to headquarters and I will see if they can forward it to the proper individuals.

The Vermont National Guard hopes to update its Open-Air Burn Pitts Registry. Major General Gary Knight reminds us that the Vermont Legislature has passed laws to require the registration of those exposed to burn pits and to provide education to the risks. This registration will help combat the risks of these pits, including Gulf War Vets and Afghanistan. For more information; if you think you were exposed to the pits, contact "Joint Force Headquarters Public Affairs Officer Major Scott Detweiler". 802-227-2779

Another piece of legislation recently passed in Vermont was Act152 and signed by Governor Scott. This has a fast track for licensing of individuals with three active years in their field. If you were licensed in Military, you may be licensed by OPR in Vermont. For more information:

Secretary of State – Jim Condos

128 State Street

Montpelier, Vermont 802-828-2363

With Veterans Day coming, let's have a "buddy check" of all our Veterans.

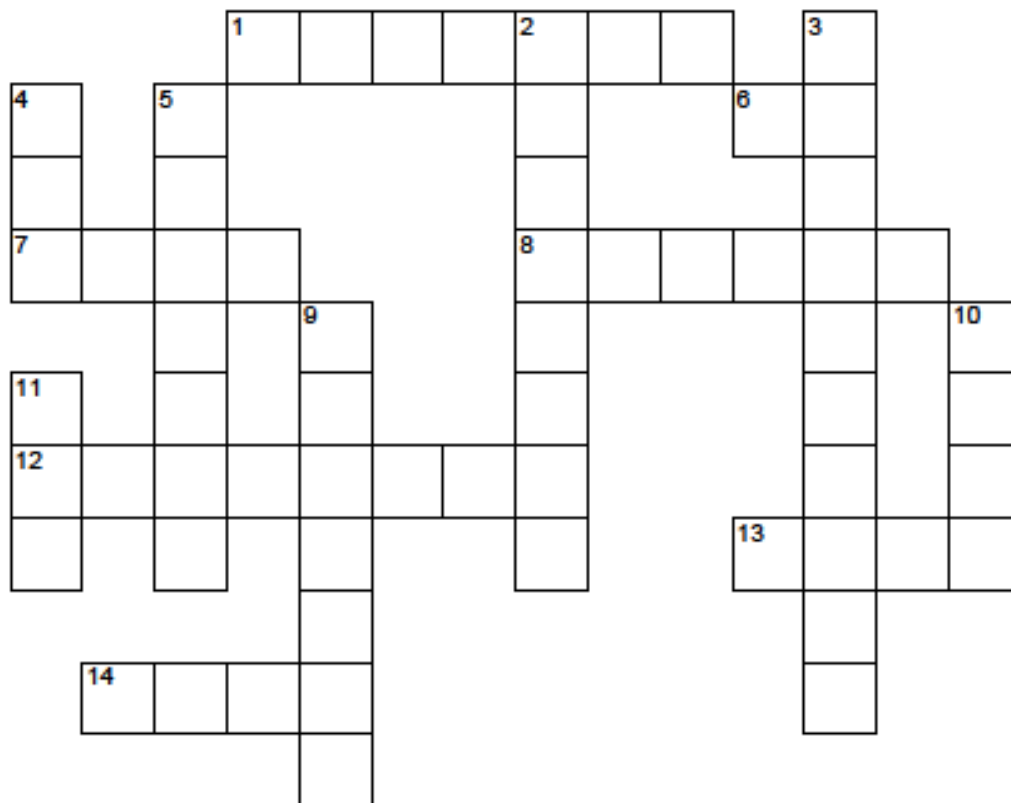
For God and County,

Legislative Chairman

Dick Farmer, PDC

# Veterans Day

November 11



[www.elcivics.com](http://www.elcivics.com)

## ACROSS

- 1 Army, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard, and \_\_\_\_\_
- 6 Are banks open on Veterans Day? (yes or no)
- 7 very large boat
- 8 to join a military branch
- 12 vehicle that flies in the sky
- 13 military branch that conducts naval operations
- 14 number of U.S. military branches

## DOWN

- 2 month Veterans Day is in
- 3 small military branch that protects our coastline and enforces maritime laws (2 words)
- 4 Is Veterans Day a federal holiday? (yes or no)
- 5 outfit worn by soldiers
- 9 person who is enlisted in a branch of the Armed Forces
- 10 largest U.S. military branch
- 11 armed conflict between countries



Department  
Commander  
Catherine M. Tester

# DEPARTMENT COMMANDER'S PROJECT

*Preserving a piece of the  
Veterans Home history*

**Project:** To build a permanent structure to house the original chapel bell at the Vermont Veterans Home.

**Goal:** To raise \$15,000.00 for this project.

**History:** The Vermont Veterans Home came into being in 1884. In 1890, a chapel was built entirely with donations from the Grand Army of the Republic. The bell for the chapel was donated by Major A. B. Valentine, a prominent businessman in Bennington at this time.

During the period 1967 - 1976, several renovations and building projects were completed and the original chapel was taken down. A new chapel was built along with a large community room. The Chapel Bell was kept but not built into the new chapel. Instead, it was affixed to a 4' high wooden post structure and parked outside the chapel building. Over the years, the Bell had rusted badly and was in poor condition.



In 2016, the Bennington Rotary Club arranged for the Bell to be refurbished. The metal pitting was repaired, and the Bell proper was repaired and resurfaced. However, it still resides atop the 4' wooden posts and is now placed at the memorial area on the Home grounds. This method of display leaves the Bell open to the elements and more evidence of metal pitting and deterioration of the Bell proper is occurring.

**The Plan:** The project entails the Bell being removed from the wooden posts and placed in a permanent structure that would protect it from the elements and place it on display with a plaque giving the history of the Chapel Bell.

The structure will be placed in the grassy area just in front of the main entrance of the Veterans Home and resemble the original architecture of the Veterans Home. The Bell would be hung inside the structure rather than set on a base.

A stamped concrete walkway would lead to the Bell display with a wrought iron fence around the structure.

Local contractors have already been contacted and have signed on for the project.



## How to

**Donate:** This project is being funded 100 percent by donations to the Commander's Project. Donations are gladly accepted from individuals, Posts, Squadrons, Units, business's or departments.

Donations can be made to the Chapel Bell Project in two ways:

1. Mail your donation to the Department of Vermont at P.O. Box 396, Montpelier, VT, 05601. Make the check out to the "Department of Vermont". Please put *Commander's Project* in the memo line.
2. You can present your check in person to Department Commander Tester at any event that she is attending.

# *LEGION ORATORICAL APPLICATION INFORMATION*

For a well-prepared, talented student (gr 9 – 12) there is an excellent possibility of garnering some money for college from this competitive speech program.

Completing the application doesn't obligate the student to participate. It does give me, the Department Chair, an idea where to focus our limited resources for the best possible outcomes. Once I receive an application, I can find a local American Legion post to support the student and help them move forward.

This following information should be of interest to

- High school students
- Parents seeking financial resources for college
- Forensics coaches
- School club advisors such as for the National Honor Society
- Any interested teacher

WHY consider participating in the American Legion (AL) Oratorical Contest, a Constitutional Speech competition?

This program presents participants with an academic speaking challenge that teaches important leadership qualities, the history of our nation's laws, the ability to think and speak clearly, and an understanding of the duties, responsibilities, rights and privileges of American citizenship.

Directly related to speaking skill comes monetary rewards.

Vermont Department top 3 receive award money.

National winner, top 3, receive scholarships of \$25,500, \$22,500 and \$20,000 respectively

All other national participants receive \$2000 to \$4000

American Legion National winners automatically seated for National Forensics League tournament

Competition begins in the local school and a contest is held at a local American Legion Post in January.

The local post winner competes in a District Contest tentatively planned for February 2022.

The district winner goes on to a state level contest to be held **March 2022**. There are 5 districts in Vermont. The national contest is held in Indianapolis 22-24 April 2022. (travel expenses paid for student and chaperone)

The student must:

- Speak 8-10 minutes on some aspect of the US Constitution as it relates to the responsibilities of citizens
- Speak 3-5 min. on one of 4 "assigned" amendments (one is selected by a draw from the hat moments before speaking) Those amendments are already posted on the national website.

Many participants have begun in their freshman or sophomore years. That gives them the experience of researching the topic and executing public speaking. By the junior and senior years, the student can then refine their style and presentation winning money along the way.

If you have any questions please contact me, **Karlene DeVine**. Home phone is **(802) 877-6392** and my answering machine picks up after 5 rings if no one answers first. Or, e-mail [kdevine@myfairpoint.net](mailto:kdevine@myfairpoint.net).

Karlene DeVine  
Vermont Department Chair  
Oratorical Constitutional Speech Program

**For vital information about competing in this program, go to [www.legion.org/oratorical](http://www.legion.org/oratorical)**



**The American Legion High School Oratorical Program**  
**"A Constitutional Speech Contest"**  
**2022 APPLICATION**

(To be completed by student with sponsorship of American Legion Post)

Contestant Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a United States Citizen? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ If no, are you a resident alien? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Parent's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Day Time Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

## SCHOOL REPORT

High School: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

School Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ School Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Faculty Contact: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

I first became interested in the Oratorical Contest when: \_\_\_\_\_

I will abide by all the rules of the Department of Vermont and The National High School Oratorical Contest Committee and follow the instructions of contest sponsors and chairman. I hereby attest that my Prepared Oration and Assigned Topic presentations are my original work.

Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsored by American Legion Post or District: \_\_\_\_\_

Post or District Chairman or Officer \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\***Must be postmarked no later than December 14, 2021**\*\*\*\*\*

Mail Application to:  
**THE AMERICAN LEGION**

Department Oratorical Contest

126 State Street, PO Box 396

Montpelier, VT 05601-0396

Or

FAX to:  
**(802) 223-0318**

# LEGION RIDERS

As riding season winds down and the cold of winter starts to set in, we in the northeast look to putting up our rides for the winter. I hope your riding season was a good one, and I'm already looking forward to the next one.

Although this seemingly never-ending pandemic has seriously curtailed a lot of our events, it is now time to consider our Winter Meeting in February. We had to hold it via Zoom last winter. If needed, we will do that again this winter. Until we know that for sure though, I'd like you all to consider the possibility of hosting the Winter Meeting at a Post, in-person. The last few in-person meetings were held at my own, Hardwick, Post due to a lack of offers to host. It would be great if we could get some other Posts/Chapters involved in hosting the meetings. I'm sure we could talk Hardwick into it again if necessary, but I would like to see other Chapters have the opportunity to participate. If your Chapter is interested in hosting, please feel free to let me know via email at [trollfur@yahoo.com](mailto:trollfur@yahoo.com) or call my cell phone at 802-

272-0416.

The Winter Meeting is the event at which we elect our Department ALR slate of officers. All offices are up for election, with nominations being taken from the floor. All voting is done on a one chapter, one vote basis, per our bylaws. Ideally, your Chapter will have met and elected a delegate to cast votes for your Chapter prior to the meeting. We do typically offer a few minutes prior to the start of the meeting for Chapters to do so if they haven't had the opportunity to do so ahead of time.

I hope to see as many Riders as possible come out to support our ALR program and make their voices heard. Bring your ideas of things you'd like to see happen, and consider running for an office as well. This program only works as well as its members. Some of us have been doing this for a long time and some fresh minds, bodies, and ideas would be welcomed.

The current officers are:

Director - Lou Furry  
Asst. Director - Mark Cloutier  
Secretary - Corrinna Colson  
Treasurer - Bonnie Stewart-Lohr  
Safety Officer - David Hendee  
Road Captain - John Christian  
Sgt.-at-Arms - Chris Wood



District 1 Representative -  
Ken Trombley  
District 2 Representative -  
Dale Manning  
District 3 Representative -  
Wanda Woodard  
District 4 Representative -  
Marc Colety  
District 5 Representative -  
Andy Sheldon

I look forward to seeing you there, if not before!

Ride Safely

Lou Furry

Director

American Legion Riders

Department of Vermont

# POST EVERLASTING

COLEMAN, FREDERICK R	01
TAYLOR, DONALD	01
CHANDLER, HOWARD H	01
THIBAUT, PHILIP J	01
STAHL, VERONICA A	01
DEMERITT, EVERETT	07
ROY, BERNARD	10
CANAS, RICHARD P	10
GOSSELIN, LAWRENCE J	10
HART, ROY	10
FITTS, HOMER	10
TROMBLEY-HOLCOMB, ARLENE	10
HOWE, BRADFORD H	14
MORRIS, PETER	15
MONGEON, LEONARD	19
GILL, JR JOSEPH	19
BUTLER, LAWRENCE	20
BURNHAM, THOMAS	25
GATES, JOHN W	26
LOCKE, EARLE	26
HUTCHINBS, HARRY	26
CALLIHAN, HOWARD	35
DECAMP, EDWARD R	37
CARLSON, CARL T	47
RIVERS, ROBERT	69
TUFANO ALBERT L	100



*“Whereas, we humbly bow to the will of Devine Providence, while ever cherishing in our hearts the memory of distinguished service to our country and outstanding contributions to American Legion comradeship. The American Legion does mourn the passing of these comrades. “*

# SON's Commanders Project

## **Pathways** Vermont Supportive Services for Veteran Families

### 2021 FACT SHEET

In partnership with



The Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) program is a national initiative funded by the Department of Veterans Affairs to address homelessness among veterans in the United States.

The SSVF program is housed in Vermont Veteran Services at the University of Vermont, with case management and housing services provided by Pathways Vermont. The program helps very-low income veteran households who are homeless or imminently at risk of homelessness gain and retain stable housing.

Services provided include needs assessment, intensive housing case management, assistance accessing VA benefits and financial assistance.

#### PROGRAM SERVICES

The Supportive Services for Veteran Families program provides short-term supportive services to participants to help them obtain and/or retain stable housing in 90 days. The program uses a Rapid Rehousing approach, meaning the program's priority is to support participants in developing a permanent housing option.

Intensive case management is the primary service provided. In certain cases, case management may be augmented by temporary financial assistance. This assistance is used to help with expenses related to securing housing, for example rental assistance, security deposits, utility deposits and other related expenses. It should be noted that financial assistance is limited in amount and cannot be guaranteed.

#### FY22 FUNDING

In 2014 Pathways Vermont was awarded a subcontract from SSVF at UVM to provide case management and housing services for a Supportive Services for Veteran Families grant awarded by the Department of Veteran Affairs. The SSVF program operates in all 14 counties in Vermont and 6 counties in the eastern Adirondacks. We have to raise \$15,000 to cover expenses that the grant does not cover.

Source of funds	Amount
SSVF at UVM Department of Veterans Affairs Grant	\$48,000
Fundraising	15,000

#### FAST FACTS\*:

## 248

Vermont Veteran  
Families Housed

## 138

Vermont Veterans Supported  
to Positive Outcome

## 224

Instances of  
Homelessness  
Prevented  
(through temporary  
financial assistance)

## 183

Children  
Served

\*Through March 2021





## Homeless Veteran Referral Process

Client presents and states they are a Veteran



**Referral Partner** – Refer to Lead Agency or Assessment Hub to complete HMIS online assessment

**Assessment Partner** – Complete HMIS online assessment and place client into CE

**\*Veteran Service Providers who are also Assessment Partners will complete the HMIS assessment, enter Veteran into CE, add Veteran to their FBGT data and continue to serve the Veteran**

**Lead Agency or Assessment Hub**– Complete HMIS online assessment and place client into CE



**Refer Client to Veterans Committee Representative:**

Telephone or Email the VCR with client info to include contact phone and/or email as well as HMIS #.

**VCR will verify Client's Veteran Status:**

If the Veteran is eligible, Veteran will be placed on FBGT (Veterans By-name-list) and referred to Veteran Resources best suited to Veteran's needs and wishes. Veteran will remain on Local By-name-list and will continue to be considered for all community-based resources per statewide CE policy

If the Veteran is not eligible, VCR will contact Lead Agency/Assessment Hub to inform CE Coordinator Veteran is not eligible for Veteran resources and will be prioritized on the local by-name-list as any other client.

Continued coordination between VCR and Lead Agency/Assessment Hub to quickly identify Veterans and de-conflict any issues.

**Vermont Veterans Committee Representative (VCR):**

**Will Vilardo;** [wvilardo@uvm.edu](mailto:wvilardo@uvm.edu)  
802-656-2834

**Veteran Resources:**

**HUD-VASH** – Permanent supportive housing

**GPD** – Service-intensive transitional housing

**SSVF** – Rapid Re-housing  
**SSVF@UVM & Vets Inc** both are SSVF grantees and provide rapid re-housing & prevention services

**Dodge House** – Transitional Housing for Veterans



## **Looking for Help to Get or Keep Housing? Call the Lead Agency in Your Area to Get Connected**

**Addison County:**  
Charter House Coalition

Heidi Lacey  
[heidi@chcv.org](mailto:heidi@chcv.org)  
(802) 989-8621

**Bennington County:**  
BROC – Community Action in Southwestern Vt

Sandy Bessette  
[sbessette@broc.org](mailto:sbessette@broc.org)  
(802) 445-1305

**Windham South:**  
Groundworks Collaborative

Rhianna Kendrick  
[rkendrick@groundworksvt.org](mailto:rkendrick@groundworksvt.org)  
(802) 275-7179

**Caledonia, Essex, Orleans Counties:**  
Northeast Kingdom Community Action

Newport  
Gina Putvain  
[gputvain@nekcavt.org](mailto:gputvain@nekcavt.org)  
(802) 334-7316 x210

St. Johnsbury  
Stefanie Willett  
[swillett@nekcavt.org](mailto:swillett@nekcavt.org)  
(802) 748-6040

**Chittenden County:**  
Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity (CVOEO)

Amy Gonyeau  
[agonyeau@cvoeo.org](mailto:agonyeau@cvoeo.org)  
(802) 863-6248 x723

**Franklin/Grand Isle Counties:**  
Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity (CVOEO)

Jess Graff  
[jgraff@cvoeo.org](mailto:jgraff@cvoeo.org)  
(802) 527-7392

**Orange/Windsor North:**  
Upper Valley Haven

Gwen Williams  
[gwilliams@uppervalleyhaven.org](mailto:gwilliams@uppervalleyhaven.org)  
(802) 478-1822

**Lamoille County:**  
Capstone Community Action

Erica Da Costa  
[Edacosta@capstonevt.org](mailto:Edacosta@capstonevt.org)  
(802) 888-7993 or (800) 639-8710

**Rutland County:**  
Homeless Prevention Center

Sara Orvis  
[saralynn@hpcvt.org](mailto:saralynn@hpcvt.org)  
(802) 775-9286 x 210

**Windsor South/Windham North:**  
Springfield Supported Housing

Rose Murphy  
[rmurphy@sshvvt.org](mailto:rmurphy@sshvvt.org)  
(802) 885-3034 x104

**Washington County:**  
Capstone Community Action

Jenn Ball  
[jball@capstonevt.org](mailto:jball@capstonevt.org)  
(802) 477-5126 or 1-800-639-1053

## **Looking for a warm, safe place to sleep tonight? Call 2-1-1 to find a shelter near you**



## Department of Vermont American Legion

### “Foliage Gas Raffle”

1<sup>st</sup> Prize



2<sup>nd</sup> Prize



Donation: 3 Tickets for \$5.00







Drawing: Mid-Winter Conference

January 22, 2022

Mail tickets and payment to:

Department Headquarters  
126 State Street, P O Box 396  
Montpelier, VT 05601-0396

# Fall Foliage Gas Raffle Tickets

 <p><b>Department of Vermont American Legion "Foliage" Gas Raffle Donation-3 Tickets for \$5.00</b></p> <p>Drawing: January 22, 2022 1<sup>st</sup> Prize-\$250 gas card 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize-\$150 gas card</p>	Name _____ Address _____ Phone _____
 <p><b>Department of Vermont American Legion "Foliage" Gas Raffle Donation-3 Tickets for \$5.00</b></p> <p>Drawing: January 22, 2022 1<sup>st</sup> Prize-\$250 gas card 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize-\$150 gas card</p>	Name _____ Address _____ Phone _____
 <p><b>Department of Vermont American Legion "Foliage" Gas Raffle Donation-3 Tickets for \$5.00</b></p> <p>Drawing: January 22, 2022 1<sup>st</sup> Prize-\$250 gas card 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize-\$150 gas card</p>	Name _____ Address _____ Phone _____
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